

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 29 June 1950

SUBJECT Mineral Oil Situation

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. [redacted]

[redacted]

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. At the end of the blockade supplies of raw material for crude oil products and the refining of these products have again been provided. About 10,000 tons monthly of crude oil shipments come from the Zistersdorfer (P 49/S 63) crude oil district.
  2. According to the trade agreement with Hungary, cutting oils, drilling oils, cold oils, saturated steam cylinder oils (no superheated steam cylinder oils) and automobile grease is not imported but is produced in the Luetzkendorf (M 52/D 80) plant and in the other Soviet Zone lubricant-producing plants.
  3. Paraffin with a melting point above 52°C is not available. However, there are sufficient quantities of paraffin "gatsch" (residue).
  4. Benzol and homologous benzol products are not available in sufficient amounts. This output had changed little compared with the 1948 production.
  5. The monthly domestic production of tar and bitumen is only 1,000 tons compared to the monthly requirements of 200,000 tons for roadmaking and underground work. Since the 4th quarter of 1949, about seven times as much brown coal tar has been produced as in the 2nd quarters of 1948.

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Comment:

a. This report supplements information of a previous report\*. Para 1 is especially noteworthy. It indicates that the Soviets recently delivered 10,000 tons of crude oil from Zistersdorf to the Luetzkendorf Mineral Oil Plant, thus fully utilizing the capacity of this refinery. Until recently there have been very irregular crude oil shipments so that only 50 percent of the capacity of the Luetzkendorf Refinery could be utilized.

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b. The counterblockade of the Western Powers adversely affected the Soviet Zone of Germany industries because of the critical shortage of lubricating oils. Complete shutdown threatened many plants.

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